

THE BLOOMFIELD RECORD.

HARVESTS OF HAIR.

GIRLS PART WITH THEIR CROWNING GLORY FOR A FEW CENTS.

Jewelry and Wigs Are Made of the Grown-out of Crops—Information, Some of It of an Odd Character, From a Man Who Makes Things of Hair.

It was quite by chance that the writer of this article happened on a man who has spent his lifetime in the manipulation of human hair, transforming it into wigs, crowns, frizzies and all the other kinds of "false" hair and weaving it into watch chains, eyeglass guards, bracelets, as well as mounting it in lockets, rings, pins, brooches, brooches, brooches, and setting it up in all kinds of dental designs and emblems.

"A charming head of hair on a woman," he said, "is a thing of beauty and indeed a crowning glory, but to a hair worker it is of little value. Even the longest hair, before it is passed through the hands of the manufacturer, is worth nothing worthless. A clump of woman's hair which is 10 inches in length, for example, would not be worth more than 60 cents.

"I remember a woman coming into my shop one night and offering to sell her hair. She said she was a seaman's wife, and not having heard from him for many months was anxious to have some money to live on. I told her that if she would give her for her hair, which was of considerable length, I refused to cut it off. I wouldn't cut any woman's hair off. It is such a demoralizing, degrading thing to do, and the fact is emphasized when dire need is the cause of the sale. However, I was in a position to obtain her assistance until her husband came home again.

"We got our first descriptions of hair," continued the subject of this interview, "from France and Italy, whence come all shades of black and brown. France, again, Germany and Spain supply the market with brown, light flaxen and red hair. Gray hair, being found in every parcel, is considered as universal. On the contrary, there are regular hair-wig makers. During the summer time you can see at every fair peddlers surrounded by girls with their beautiful hair nicely combed standing in file waiting their turn. The peddler has in his hands a pair of shears, each girl bends her neck, a few snips, and the hair is off, to stand in a tangle at the shearer's side. And how much do you think that the girls get for this? A few cents, a shiny trinket or a bright silk handkerchief."

Some peddlers travel from cottage to cottage plying their trade, and the same performance is gone through. An average head of hair weighs about 10 pounds when it is accumulated, it is sold to the hair manufacturers, who submit it to a process of cleansing and sorting into various lengths and shades. It is then ready for the wigmakers, who buy it as they require it, paying at the rate of 20 cents per so ounce for lengths of 10 inches to 12 inches to as many shillings as there are inches for lengths of 14 inches and upward. The greatest demand is for hair from 14 to 24 inches in length. The longest female hair on record is 72 inches."

The tycoon of Japan once confiscated the hair of a whole province and had it woven into a ship's hawser over a quarter of a mile long. Then he discovered that steel ropes were in existence, and made them, employing the skills of the unfortunate Japs, replicas before the eyes of the curious in Beghal Green museum.

The gentleman interviewed possesses a magnificent trophy of hair, in size some 3 feet long by 2 feet high, in the form of a basket of flowers, every leaf, every petal and every stem of yellow carnations or running wavy hairs from the human head. How long it took to create it, it is impossible to say, but years unquestionably. He has other similar displays, mostly the work of himself or his son, though they pale into insignificance beside the monument of patience in question.

The workers come into garments that are of vague considerably of late years, but seafaring men even now are great lovers of this form of memento. Naturally their favorite designs assume the forms of anchors, compasses and other things nautical.

One day a gentleman came to the subject of this article and desired him in a most mysterious manner to weave some hair which he had brought him in the form of a serpent. The head and tail were to be of gold, and the tail was to be fixed into the mouth. The serpent was to be in two coils and to encircle a golden heart pierced by a dagger. In order to thoroughly comprehend the design he had to be led into the secret, and this was the explanation which was offered.

The serpent was to represent the nature of a certain young lady to whom the hair belonged and who had jilted the gentleman in question. The golden heart was symbolic of his pure and worthy affection, and the dagger showed how deeply he had been wounded. The tail which was being made was indicated that in fulfilling her quondam lover she had also bitten herself. The jilted swain was most particular about the execution of the work, sent it back twice for alterations and finally refused to have it at all, perhaps discovering the bathos of his scheme.—Boston Post.

Courtesy Boston Post.

The new canon of Westminster was once terribly interrupted by the incessant coughing of his congregation. Whereon he suddenly paused in his sermon and interjected the remark: "Last night I was dining with the Prince of Wales." The effect was miraculous, and the drowsy slumber reigned as though constituted. "As a matter of fact, I was not dining with the Prince of Wales last night, but with my own family. I am glad, however, to find that I have at last secured your attention."

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RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

New York & Greenw'd Lake RR

TO NEW YORK

Chestnut Hill—5:26, 7:24, 7:27, 8:08

8:44, 10:22, 2:30, 3:30, 5:54, 6:02

8:45, 12:56,

Sunday: 7:27, 9:57, 11:43, 2:25, 4:27, 6:51, 8:44;

Bellville Ave.—2:38, 6:27, 7:24, 8:20, 9:30,

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